WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A network device, comprising;

    a) at least two communication ports, wherein each port is operable to communicate with a different device;

    b) an interface operable to provide communication between at least two ports, wherein the interface is configurable as to a physical layer and a network layer.

2. The network device of claim 1 wherein at least one device is a terminal equipment device.

3. The network device of claim 1 wherein at least one device is a network terminal device.

4. The network device of claim 1 wherein the interface is further configurable as to synchronized or sourced clock.

5. The network device of claim 1 wherein the interface is further configurable to provide phantom power.

6. A network interface, comprising:

    a) at least two lines operable to allow reception of data;

    b) at least two lines operable to allow transmission of data;

    c) a processor, wherein the processor is operable to allow alteration of the characteristics of the interface with respect to the physical layer and the network layer thereby altering the data received and transmitted.

7. The interface of claim 6 wherein the processor is further operable to allow alteration of a clock and a power signal.

8. A network interface, comprising:

    a) means for receiving data;

    b) means for transmitting data;

    c) means for altering an interface with respect to the physical layer and the network layer thereby altering the data received and transmitted.

9. A method for providing a configurable network interface, comprising:

    a) providing a user interface operable to allow a user to configure a network interface including:

        i) selection of a type of interface desired;

        ii) selection between a synchronized clock or a sourced clock;

        iii) selection of whether phantom power will be provided; and

        iv) selection between user-side or network-side; and

    b) receiving input signals from a user designating the selections; and

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c) a processor operable to receive the input signals and configure the interface in accordance with those selections.

10. A computer-readable medium including software code, such that when the software code is executed it results in:

a) a user interface to allow independent selection of parameters of a serial interface;

b) reception of inputs indicating settings for the parameters; and

c) configuration of the interface in accordance with the settings.

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